5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 in which the test criteria are defined using a scripting language and said method further comprises the step of parsing the test criteria to convert them into a form for testing against.

8. A method according to Claim 6 in which each element of software is provided with means for capturing the results of its testing.

9. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 6 further comprising means for producing a report of the results of testing an element of software.

10. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 6 in which the test criteria are defined using a scripting language and the apparatus further comprises means for parsing the test criteria to convert them into a form for testing against.